

Agents for the Evening Star of Washington.

Persons at a distance wanting the *Daily Evening Star*, at the earliest period after its issue, can be accommodated at
Wilmington, Delaware, by E. S. R. BUTLER, No. 114, Market street.
Baltimore, by HENRY TAYLOR, Sun Iron Buildings.
Harper's Ferry, by ARCHIBALD KITZMILLER.
Alexandria, Va., by W. F. CARRE.
Fredericksburg, Va., by W. M. MILLS.
Richmond, Va., by SMITH & FORK, Nos. 150 Broad street, and 194 Main street.
Portsmouth, Va., by A. B. OWENS, No. 70, High street.

SPIRIT OF THE MORNING PRESS.

The *Union* discusses the war and the allies; and thinks that the conservative Whig statesmen of the land will not long consent to play second fiddle to such men as Gardner and Burlingame. The editor thinks that the Know Nothings are about to abandon the secret elements in their organization.
The *Intelligencer* also elaborately discusses the Eastern War.

PUTNAM FOR DECEMBER.—We are indebted to Taylor & Maury for the December number of Putnam's Magazine. It is embellished by a steel engraving of the author of the "Moosehead Journal," and contains a continuation of "Israel Potter, or Fifty Years' Exile," and a number of interesting articles. This number ends the 4th volume of this publication.

We are indebted to Adams & Co.'s Express for copies of San Francisco and Melbourne prices current and shipping list.

Quite a number of the leading journals throughout the country are taking ground in favor of the abolition of the Usury Laws.

The ship *Valparaiso*, from Macao, arrived on Sunday at New York, reports 800 negroes on the coast of Africa waiting to be shipped to Cuba; the owner, offering \$20,000 freight to any one bringing them out. It is also stated that the payment was to be made by a New York house.

It is stated that a new batch of counterfeit tens on the State Bank of Ohio, are getting into circulation. They are said to be exceedingly well done. We have as yet seen no description of them, but it would be well for our readers to be on the look out.

PERSONAL.

...The Rev. A. A. Lipscomb of Ala., is stopping at Brown's Hotel.

...Hon. J. C. Green of Mo., and Hon. John Pettit of Ind., are in the city.

...The Governor of Texas persists in declaring the Walker and King Pacific Railroad deposit insufficient.

...A man was hung by a mob in Texas the other day on suspicion of negro stealing.

...Rev. John W. Hill has accepted the Presidency of Miami University.

...The New York Evening Post says:

"Mr. Consul Hopkins has got himself into difficulty with the Paraguayan government, and all communication with him in his official capacity has been suspended. He has also been required to quit the barracks of San Antonio, where he has his sugar factory. Mr. Hopkins, in turn, has resolved not to go. So stand things at present as we learn from our Buenos Ayres correspondent."

WASHINGTON NEWS AND GOSSIP.

The State of Affairs in the Crimea.—The reader is referred to the outside of our issue of this day for an interesting letter from a distinguished man in Europe, who has, in his day, made his mark on the world's affairs. From subscribing to the *Star*, he has come to desire that the United States should be kept properly posted with reference to matters of importance on the other side of the water. Hence we are indebted to him for the lucid exposition from his pen which we print on our first page.

We have to say, further, that it is to-day very generally thought in military circles here, that the allies will hardly take Sebastopol. Previous to the Baltic's arrival, the impression in such circles of the Federal metropolis was that they would surely take the city, destroy the fortifications and dock-yard paraphernalia, and the ships of war of the Caspian, and then rapidly re-embark and be off. The Baltic's news has dissipated that impression, however.

The following facts, not generally known to the American public, bear forcibly on the state of things in the Crimea, and will help greatly to enable our readers to comprehend what has been going on there.

Thus, the expedition was undertaken against the judgment of nearly all the officers of both the French and English armies, except Lord Raglan and Marshal St. Arnaud, the commanders-in-chief. The juniors opposed it as long as they could do so with propriety. It was originally intended to carry Sebastopol by a coup de main, the combined land forces attacking from the north side, and the combined fleets from sea ward. So no tents even were taken with the expedition, the commissariat, medical preparations, &c., being only such as would be requisite probably for a campaign not expected to require much more than twenty-four hours for its triumphant execution. On arriving at their original landing place, south of Utopia, it was found that the country bordering the sea, for ten miles around, was a quaking bog, on which it was impossible to land even the field artillery. It was as much as they could do to land themselves in safety. This, their first disappointment, forced the change of arrangements, by which all but the troops had to be sent round to Balaklava to be landed.

The battle of the Alma was next fought. Its result was a practical Russian victory, in as much as it ended in a defeat of the plan of the allies to attack Sebastopol from the North. They nominally held the ground, yet were forced either to re-embark, or undertake the desperate job of attacking the city from the side where its defenses were in their strength, character and position, entirely unknown to them. On breaking ground there, on the south side, to their amazement, they found that after digging down 12 inches they came every where on solid rock. So they had again to change their plans, and make their approaches by portable field works, as it were, constructed not out of, but on top of the earth, of whatever they could lay their hands on. They had no sooner opened their fire, than, to their horror, the whole earth between them and the object of their attack, blazed with fire from masked works—a sort of fortified camp

outside the walls, constructed by the Russians with great care and skill. These were trenches dug in the earth, the top of them being level with the surface. It was against these terrible works that the allies had been alone contending up to the Canada's news. From them the Russians had checked the allies, taken some of the French redoubts, destroyed the English light cavalry, &c.

The Canada's news told of a combined attack both by sea and land, in which the allies were most clearly worsted and discomfited. Menschikoff sank hulks, not ships-of-war as originally represented—off the mouth of the harbor. This prevented the allied fleet from getting within two miles of the city, but permitted them to approach near enough to the fortifications protecting the entrance of the harbor, to enable the latter to pour red hot shot into the attacking vessels. With these, in the combined attack (by sea and land) the fleets were disabled. They effected absolutely nothing, and were only saved from being sunk and burned by hauling off, alleging that the disasters sustained on the land side caused them to retreat.

Thus did affairs stand previous to the Baltic's arrival; the allies not having up to that time even regularly attacked the fortifications proper of the city, but contending until then, for the most part, only with the extra and irregular fortifications outside the walls. The damage they had done inside the walls was certainly very trifling. It was done altogether with shells, and thus could not have been very serious. The Canada also brought us news of the various attacks of Menschikoff upon the rear of the allies, with success greater or less in every case.

The Baltic's news tells the tale of the progress of the affair for three days later. The sum of her news is, that Menschikoff had received large reinforcements—had again attacked the rear of the allies, killing five thousand of them, with a loss of eight thousand on his side. The English had previously lost nine thousand, in four weeks, in the Crimea. They were thirty thousand strong at Varna. Since reaching Varna they have lost fourteen thousand, officers and men—nine thousand, as before remarked, since landing in the Crimea. The French loss has been in proportion. The ends the allies have in view are too great for their force there. So, instead of three reliefs their troops are divided into two only. Thus the men are twelve hours in the trenches, instead of eight hours. The other twelve of the twenty-four they must take their places, with musket in hand to defend those in the trenches. They must sleep full armed, therefore—stand under the burning sun all day, and sleep uncovered in the heavy and cold dews of the Crimea at night. Having no properly supplied commissariat, and holding no ground, except what is just under their feet, they are fed only with salt pork, though the country immediately around them groans with cattle and everything else they want in the way of provisions. Thus situated, the reader will see at a glance why the cholera and the dysentery are destroying them almost as fast as the Russian guns.

As far as we can judge of the precise state of matters there, when the latest news the Baltic brings left the Crimea, the main fortifications of the city had not been attacked. Such is the opinion of most of the military men with whom we have conversed on the subject. It was known that immense reinforcements were constantly arriving for Menschikoff, while it was utterly impossible that the allies could be reinforced as fast as was requisite to render their success certain. Their hope was that by another day's desperate fighting they could get into the city. Suppose they succeed? They will then be at the mercy of the Russians, as from the fort on the north side of the river, which completely commands the whole city, it may be fired with red hot shot in fifteen minutes in a dozen places, and they would also still have Menschikoff in terrible force in their rear.

These facts are sufficient to show that the allies are indeed in "a tight place," in the Crimea. The mortality among the English officers has been terrible, filling the houses of the aristocracy with mourning.

FOUR FABRICATIONS NAILED.—The New York Herald speaks falsely, as usual, when it says that Mr. Buchanan has spoken or written of Mr. Sickles, his Secretary of Legation, but in the language of the utmost familiarity and friendship. Several letters recently received from Mr. Buchanan refer to Mr. Sickles in the warmest terms.

It is also false that Mr. Buchanan condemns Mr. Sickles's bearing at the Peabody dinner. On the contrary, he has everywhere defended it.

It is also false that Mr. Buchanan complained of Mr. Soule in the French affair. The very reverse of this is the fact.

It is immeasurably false that Mr. Buchanan has ever complained of the President. On the contrary, his last letters to different friends contain the most eloquent compliments to President Pierce we have ever read.

Sloped.—We understand that information has reached the Pension Bureau, saying that when the case of Capt. Joseph Hill, indicted for forging bounty land papers before the United States district court in Philadelphia, was called on last week, the accused turned up among the missing. It will be recollected that not long since we noticed the fact that the first jury in this case could not agree, and were accordingly discharged. The bureau sent on much additional proof, and it is supposed he got wind of the fact and ran off, leaving his bondsmen in the lurch.

New Light-houses.—We understand that the Light-house Board have recently ordered the construction of the proposed light-house work on Chandeleur Island, off the coast of Louisiana, and on Cape St. Blas and Dog Island, Florida. It is thought that these works will be finished by the spring. The materials for rebuilding the Petit Menan light on the coast of Maine, will be procured this winter.

Sublime Rascality!—Bennett bears the palm. It is no wonder that his rascality is so costly, and that Mr. Fry is waiting for his \$10,000 with so much eagerness. His last card is, however, an improved specimen of his art. A gentleman receives a letter, reads some of its passages to a few friends, and, by some means, a garbled version of the letter reaches Bennett's ears. There is nothing in the letter of an important character not well known before; but Bennett prints the report of it with gusto, precisely as if it had been the revelation of a great secret. What does this rascal know next, however? Nothing less than to turn about and charge the recipient of the letter with baseness for reading a portion of

it to a few personal friends! Robert Macaire has had no living likeness and imitator like James Gordon Bennett.

The Portland, Me., Marine Hospital.—We understand that the proper officers in the Treasury Department have completed the plans and specifications for this edifice. So proposals for its construction will very shortly be advertised for.

New Light-houses Completed.—According to advices received by the Light-house Board in this city, the three beacon range lights at Holmes' Hole (Martha's Vineyard) have been completed.

List of Patents issued from the United States Patent Office, for the week ending Nov. 28, 1854—each bearing that date:

Alden Adams, of Jerseyville, Ill.—For improvement in hay and cotton presses.
Gottlieb Backstein, of Philadelphia, Pa.—For improved arrangement of devices for applying power to fire engines.
Jno. Cram, of Boston, Mass.—For improvement in the towel stand or clothes-horse.
A. B. Crawford, of Wooster, O.—For improvement in clover hullers.
Augustus Eliezer, of Boston, Mass.—For improvement in seats for public buildings.
Fletcher Feltner, of Perth Amboy, N. J.—For improvement in feathering paddle wheels.
C. B. Gallagher, of San Francisco, Cal.—For improvement in converting reciprocating into rotation.
Elias A. Hibbard, of Winchester, Va.—For rotary cooking stove.
Jos. Hollen, of White Township, Pa.—For improvement in knitting machines.
Whitten E. Kidd, of New York, N. Y.—For improvement in moulds for pressing bonnet fronts.
Danl. B. Martin, of Washington, N. J.—For improvement in steam boilers.
Edw. J. McDonald, of New Creek Depot, Hampshire Co., Va.—For improvement in tanks and cisterns for supplying locomotives.
Jordan L. Mott, of Mott Haven, N. Y.—For improvement in stoves.
James Newman, of Birmingham, England.—For improvements in making metal rods and tubes. Patented in England March 23, 1854.
A. D. Perry, of Newark, N. J.—For improvement in breech loading firearms.
E. K. Root, of Hartford, Conn.—For improvement for boring the chambers in the cylinders of fire engines.
Danl. H. Shirley, of Boston, Mass.—For improved piano forte action.
Nathl. Spence, of New York, N. Y.—For improvements in moulds for pressing bonnet frames.
Wm. Talbot, of Sanford, Me.—For improvement in looms for weaving fabrics.
Wm. Tinsley, of Glen Falls, N. Y.—For improved miter-box.
Edw. J. Tracy, of New York, N. Y.—For inclined slide valves.
Geo. Tugnot, of New York, N. Y.—For improved rotary lathe.
Danl. Van Fleet, of Sandusky city, O.—For improved planing machine.
Wm. Wakely, of Homer, N. Y.—For improvements in metal drills.
Theodore E. Weed, of Williamsburg, N. Y.—For improvement in sewing machines.
Wm. Wheeler, of Andover, Mass.—For improvement in washing machines.
Henry Richards and Chas. F. Winsor, of Boston, Mass.—For improvements in wind-lashes.
Osgood G. Boynton, of Haverhill, Mass., assignor to Nehemiah Hunt, of same place.—For improvement in binding guides for sewing machines. Anti-dated June 1, 1854.
Thos. J. W. Robertson, of New York, N. Y., assignor to himself and Alfred E. Beach, of same place.—For improvement in sewing machines.

Arad Woodworth 3d, of Boston, Mass., and Geo. Chamberlain, of Olean, N. Y.—For improvement in machinery for making rope and cordage.

DESIGN.

Horace W. Robbins, of Baltimore, Md.—For design for steves.

The Current Operations of the Treasury Department.—On yesterday, the 27th of Nov., there were of Treasury Warrants on foot:

For the redemption of stock..... \$22,547 72
For paying other Treasury debts..... 32,024 96
For the Customs..... 15,206 25
For covering into the Treasury from Customs..... 1,265,771 01
For covering into the Treasury from Lands..... 568,396 35
For covering into the Treasury from miscellaneous sources..... 3,975 17
For the War Department..... 55,41 86
For the Navy Department..... 43,689 33
For repaying in the Navy Department..... 5,343 33
For the Interior Department..... 23,877 57
For entering an appropriation for the Interior Department on the books of the Treasury..... 2,488 40

BALTIMORE CORRESPONDENCE.

Pity of the Know Nothing Council—A Pulpit Politician Drubbed—The Money Pressure, &c.

BALTIMORE, November 27.

Our City Council assembled again this afternoon, to whom Mayor Hinks addressed a message upon the McDonough case and water question. The second branch on meeting was (a thing altogether unusual) opened by a voluntary prayer from some zealous Know Nothing, who probably is a candidate for chaplain to the municipal authorities, if such office be created. There can be no real objection to this kind of thing, but under present circumstances it was rather an innovation upon established custom, and took some of the wise aldermen by surprise.

My friend Richardson of the Argus is down upon a certain clergyman in this city who preached a sermon on last Thanksgiving day against the present administration and in favor of certain political doctrines. I shall, in my next, give you his name, and perhaps some comments upon so glaring an outrage. No language can be too strong in condemnation of such a preacher. He ought at once to be excommunicated. President Pierce, his Cabinet and all in authority were handled without gloves, and in a spirit of hypocritical meanness.

Money pressure has eased slightly. The banks are said to be discounting more liberally, and first class paper is easier of negotiation at two to three per cent. a month on the street. Business, however, is unusually dull. North Carolina and Virginia notes are still at a heavy discount, and have been a source of much annoyance. A vast quantity of this money has circulated in our city, and there are some pious persons who purchase it to pay off their laborers and other debts.

The Baltic's news has had a depressing effect upon breadstuffs, though if money was plenty, prices would recede very little. Stocks continue dull, and have a downward tendency.

ALEXANDRIA CORRESPONDENCE.

Weather—Sunday's Record—Death—Number Bill—Kunkel Coming—Prize Trumpet.

ALEXANDRIA, Nov. 28, 1854.

The weather continues excellent. Yesterday, a bright bracing day smiled upon us, and this morning we have the promise of another. On Sunday very little occurred to vary the usual routine of the day. At the morning and evening services in St. Mary's Church, the Rev. Chas. King, S. J., of Georgetown College, officiated. In the afternoon, a large number of the mechanics and other operatives in the regions of work of our city, accompanied the remains of Mr. John Chew, late master of machinery on the Manassas Gap Railroad, to your city, where the body was committed to its last resting place.

Yesterday morning our city heard with deep regret of the demise of one of the best among our people, Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart. For nearly three quarters of a century this estimable lady has been the Good Samaritan of Alexandria, assisting the destitute, ministering

to the sick, consoling the afflicted, her whole life has been but a repetition of charities, and the tears of thousands whom she has cheered by her kindness will mourn her loss.

The Number bill has at last passed our city council, met the sanction of the Mayor, and become a law. But the people were most disappointed at the enactment, as it leaves half the buildings in the business portion of the city already numbered.

We learn that Kunkel will revisit our city next week, for a short engagement here, and open his concerts with a benefit to our citizen friends of the Sun.

Parrow's fine Troupe will also be with us on Friday. We learn that he proposes a silver Trumpet as a prize to the Fire Company that shall sell the greatest number of tickets. If this ticket will be as numerous as the Egyptian locusts. AM.

The Know Nothings in New York City.

Horace Greeley appears cordially to dislike Know Nothingism. He lets no opportunity pass to expose what he believes the secrets of the order. In the Tribune of yesterday he gives the following:

"We are informed that the Know Nothing National Council, at Cincinnati, has ousted Mr. James W. Barker, of this city, from the high position he formerly held, of head functionality of the order, and elected Mr. C. B. Allen (!) in his stead. Mr. Allen is said to have been one of the originators of the order, while Mr. Barker was regarded as an upstart, if not illegitimate. Such is the report that reaches us; we cannot vouch for its correctness, but we guess it is well founded. They are said to have rejected all the proposed new ritual, with the proposed amendments to the old ritual and constitution.

"In this city it is reported that the Barker party are in the ascendancy, and are carrying on with a high hand under the lead of Thomas M. Wood, of the Chancey, Sherer, &c. They are now engaged in expelling from several lodges all who failed to support the Ullmann ticket. To this end the City Council requires every member to declare under oath that he voted for Ullmann, Scroggs & Co. and if any one cannot abide this test he is expelled. For this purpose, a deputation from the Grand Lodge takes possession of the lodge-room of its subordinate councils, each on the night of its meeting, and keeps out or turns out all who are not members as members. A new few are admitted and required to swear to the oath, if not the Hindoo ticket straight through; who ever refuses this oath, or is proved to have taken it falsely, is at once excommunicated. This squad having been disposed of, another and another is admitted successively, and all but Ullmannites or false swearers are excluded from the Order. It is added that some lodgers refuse to submit to this purifying ordeal, and that a new Grand Council is likely to be established by the champions of liberty of thought and action."

129,000 bushels of corn were sold in New York, on Saturday, at \$1 per bushel.

KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.—Wash-

ington Rheumatism No. 1 will assemble at the City Hall, this evening, at 8 o'clock.

Nov 28—11. Wm. J. REEBS, Recorder.

A CARD.—To the Ladies and gentle-

men of Washington (City and vicinity) who are desirous of attending a meeting at the Temperance Hall, on the 28th inst., at 7 o'clock.

Nov 28—11. Wm. J. REEBS, Recorder.

Attention Pioneers.—The Pioneers

of the various Military Companies are requested to attend a meeting at Columbia Army, Tuesday Evening, the 28th inst., at 7 o'clock.

Nov 28—11. Wm. J. REEBS, Recorder.

The Scott Guards have the pleasure

of announcing that their first Ball will take place on the 14th December.

Particulars in future advertisement.

Nov 28—11. Wm. J. REEBS, Recorder.

LOST.—Lost on Saturday morning

at the City Hall, a small POCKET BOOK, with a few papers, containing two tens, and several five dollar bills, of the Bank of the Metropolis, together with papers and memoranda. The owner will be glad to reward any person who will return the book to the City Hall, or to the residence of the owner, in the second building from Third street, Franklin Row.

Nov 28—11. Wm. J. REEBS, Recorder.

(CIRCULAR.)

Agency of French Spoliations Claims, Prior to 1801.

WASHINGTON, November 16, 1854.

DEAR SIR: My circular letter of 22d February last stated, that the Senate had voted these French Spoliations Bills, which on previous occasions had been made into law, by a majority equal to the number of yeas and nays required by the Constitution, and inasmuch as a large portion of the House consisted of new members, who would have no knowledge that you were those who you presented and submitted memorials to Congress many years ago (some, indeed, more than fifty years) unless specially informed thereof, and that you are interested therein; it was therefore indispensable that the claimants should, by letter, address a member of the House, and deliver in the House, including other friends they may have, a statement of their claims, and of the support of said bills—saying, in brief, from each claimant to each of his representatives and friends in Congress, and the more the letter would be read, and the more of said bill, to which I added the advice, that no agents with money or without money, or promises of any kind, nor fastidious should be sent here—all that is wanting is, to sign letters from the claimants themselves direct to members of the House.

That Senate Bill was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House, but not reported. It was purposely deferred for the benefit of the claimants, and the Senate had voted in favor of it, and members and friends of the bill, they will report it to the House early in the approaching session, and be acted on as unfinished business, without discussion on our part, and without reference to any further committee. Strong indications exist that it will become a law before the 1st of March next—nevertheless, this confidence should be maintained, and the claimants should be prepared to defend their claims, and to be ready to defend them in the House, and in brief, as above indicated, be prepared by each claimant and thrown into the House of Representatives. Should this be promptly done by each of these interested parties, I think you may conclude that the wrongs of the claimants will be speedily redressed in a law for their relief.

And to facilitate your writing to members of Congress, I subjoin hereto a list of their names and of the States they represent.

The Senate Bill was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House, but not reported. It was purposely deferred for the benefit of the claimants, and the Senate had voted in favor of it, and members and friends of the bill, they will report it to the House early in the approaching session, and be acted on as unfinished business, without discussion on our part, and without reference to any further committee. Strong indications exist that it will become a law before the 1st of March next—nevertheless, this confidence should be maintained, and the claimants should be prepared to defend their claims, and to be ready to defend them in the House, and in brief, as above indicated, be prepared by each claimant and thrown into the House of Representatives. Should this be promptly done by each of these interested parties, I think you may conclude that the wrongs of the claimants will be speedily redressed in a law for their relief.

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